

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An electronic contract safekeeping method,
comprising:

~~contractual coverage display where a covenantee terminal connected to a contractor
server therein information of a contractual coverage is kept, is caused to display the
contractual coverage;~~

~~contract safekeeping agreement where the covenantee terminal is caused to input
safekeeping agreement information agreeing to keep the contractual coverage caused to
display in the contractual coverage displaying;~~

~~contract safekeeping where a contract safekeeping server is caused to keep the
contractual coverage corresponding to the safekeeping agreement information caused to input
by the contract safekeeping agreement;~~

~~ID issue where a contract ID for identifying the contractual coverage caused to keep
in the contract safekeeping is caused to issue; and~~

~~ID notification where the contract ID caused to issue in the ID issue is caused to
notify the contractor server and the covenantee terminal~~

displaying a contractual coverage of a contract at a covenantee terminal connected to
a contractor server storing information of the contractual coverage;

inputting contract agreement information representing whether agreeing to the
contractual coverage or not, at the covenantee terminal;

inputting safekeeping agreement information representing whether agreeing to a
safekeeping of the contractual coverage or not, at the covenantee terminal, when the contract
agreement information agreeing to the contractual coverage is inputted;

requesting a contract safekeeping server to store the contractual coverage, when the safekeeping agreement information agreeing to the safekeeping is inputted;
issuing a contract ID for identifying the contract at the contract safekeeping server in accordance with the request; and
transferring the issued contract ID from the contract safekeeping server to the covenantee terminal and the contractor server.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An electronic contract safekeeping method as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~

~~ID confirmation where the contractor terminal is caused to input confirmation information expressing that the contract ID caused to notify at the ID notification is confirmed; and~~

~~confirmation safekeeping where the contract safekeeping server is caused to keep the confirmation information caused to input at the ID confirmation~~

wherein the inputting contract agreement information and the inputting safekeeping agreement information are performed at a same time.

Claims 3-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An electronic contract safekeeping method as set forth in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, further comprising:

~~server ID input where the contractor server encourages the covenantee to input a contract safekeeping server ID for identifying the contract safekeeping server;~~

~~wherein the safekeeping request of the contractual coverage in the safekeeping request, to the contract safekeeping server corresponding to the contract safekeeping server~~

~~ID that is input in accordance with the encouragement at the server ID input, instructs to keep the contractual coverage and to issue the contract ID~~

inputting a contract safekeeping server ID for identifying the contract safekeeping server at the covenantee terminal,

wherein in the requesting, the contract safekeeping server in accordance with the inputted contract safekeeping server ID, is requested.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An electronic contract safekeeping method as set forth in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, further comprising:

~~wherein there is a plurality of the contract safekeeping servers, the contract safekeeping server for keeping the contractual coverage being selected from the plurality of the contract safekeeping servers~~

selecting the contract safekeeping server from a plurality of contract safekeeping servers.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An electronic contract safekeeping method as set forth in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, further comprising:

~~wherein there is a plurality of the contract safekeeping servers, the contractual coverage being kept in the plurality of the contract safekeeping servers~~

wherein in the requesting, a plurality of contract safekeeping servers are requested.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A contractor server, comprising:

~~a contractual coverage notifying portion for notifying a covenantee terminal of the contractual coverage;~~

~~a contract safekeeping agreement receiving portion that encourages the covenantee terminal notified of the contractual coverage by the contractual coverage notifying portion to input safekeeping agreement information agreeing to keep the contractual coverage, and receives the safekeeping agreement information; a contract safekeeping requesting portion that requests, corresponding to reception of the safekeeping agreement information due to the contract safekeeping agreement receiving portion, for a contract safekeeping server to keep the contractual coverage; and~~

~~a contract ID transferring portion that, notified of the contract ID identifying the contract kept in accordance with the request due to the contract safekeeping requesting portion from the contract safekeeping server, transfers the contract ID to covenantee terminal~~

a contractual coverage notifying unit configured to notify a covenantee terminal of a contractual coverage of a contract;

a contract agreement receiving unit configured to prompt a user of the covenantee terminal to input contract agreement information representing whether agreeing to the notified contractual coverage or not, and receive the inputted contract agreement information;

a safekeeping agreement receiving unit configured to prompt to the user of the covenantee terminal to input safekeeping agreement information representing whether agreeing to storing the contractual coverage or not, and receive the safekeeping agreement information, when the contract agreement information agreeing to the contractual coverage is inputted;

a contract safekeeping requesting unit configured to request a contract safekeeping server to store the contractual coverage and to issue a contract ID for identifying the contract, when the safekeeping agreement information agreeing to the safekeeping is received;

Application No. 09/926,148
Reply to Office Action of December 10, 2004

a contract ID receiving unit configured to receive the issued contract ID;

a contract ID transferring unit configured to transfer the received contract ID to the
covenantee terminal.

Claims 11-15 (Canceled).